

## DAY ONE: 25 November 'International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women'.

### Grooming leading to Violence....

Within days of getting engaged to her wonderful fiancé John, Susan a bright university student, was on her way to a new life in his country. Waking up on her first morning, Susan discovered she was alone, locked in the apartment and her passport was gone. That evening John brought home some friends, one of whom followed her into the bedroom and violently raped her. Later a cold, indifferent John told her they needed money and this was the quickest way to earn it... (As told to writer, names changed for anonymity)

### Question:

What is my reaction to this true story?

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<https://pixabay.com/en/fear-woman-stop-1131143>

### Global Facts re Violence Against Women

- **One in Three women** worldwide has experienced physical or sexual violence.
- **Sexual violence** includes rape, unwanted sexual advances, forced marriage or cohabitation.
- **700 million** women were married as children
- **200 million** women/girls have undergone female genital mutilation (FGM)
- **2 out of 3 children** trafficked are female
- **Most unsafe place** for Women is the **home**, because of partner violence.

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence>

**Gender-based violence knows no religion, age, nationality, culture, or socio-economic class.**

<http://brightredtriangle.co.uk/introducing-2017-campaign>

Ref: [www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/multimedia/](http://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/multimedia/)

*Laudato Si* - Pope Francis' encyclical to the world in 2015, highlights link between: 'Cry of the Earth and Cry of the Poor'.

".... each human being is a subject who can never be reduced to the status of an object" (Paragraph 81)

**UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** most of these reference Women particularly SDG # 5:  
**Achieve gender equality and empower all Women and Girls**

**Make your voices heard** – every voice counts!



### CEDAW

(UN Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women)

Adopted in 1979 with the aim of:

- ✓ Reducing feminized poverty and exclusion
- ✓ Ending violence against women
- ✓ Achieving gender equality during peace and war

Suggest reading CEDAW during the **16 Days** [www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/](http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/cedaw/)

### UN UDHR

**Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

**Article 3:** Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

**Article 5:** No-one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, degrading treatment.

**Action** to promote respect and equality:

1. Teach children to respect each other irrespective of gender.
2. Support organisations that look after women who have been abused.

Prepared by 'Future We Need' (FWN)  
a faith based group with members from the Columbans, Franciscans, Josephites, Mercy, Presentation and Salesians.

## **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

is a systematic and widespread human rights violation. It cuts across age, socio-economic, educational and geographic boundaries...



[www.google.ie/search?q=images+of+orange+the+world+for+free](http://www.google.ie/search?q=images+of+orange+the+world+for+free)

## *16 Days of Activism Against Gender Violence...*



*DAY ONE...*

*25th November*

**International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women....**

**49**

**Countries have no laws to protect women from domestic violence.**

## **CHILD MARRIAGE....**



[www.google.ie/search?q=Photos+of+child+brides+pixabay](http://www.google.ie/search?q=Photos+of+child+brides+pixabay)

15 million girls under the age of 15 are married each year.

*See:* [www.mercyworld.org](http://www.mercyworld.org)

